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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/049,236	02/11/2002	Hideharu Tanaka	8013-1013	9570
466	7590	02/23/2004	EXAMINER	
YOUNG & THOMPSON 745 SOUTH 23RD STREET 2ND FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22202			WEIER, ANTHONY J	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				1761
DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/049,236	TANAKA, HIDEHARU
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Anthony Weier	1761

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 12-21 and 23 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 10, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naruse (JP 58212749) taken together with Zemel et al.

The claims stand rejected for the reasons set forth in the last Office Action (mailed 10/3/03).

2. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the reference as applied in paragraph 1 further in view of JP 61-96953 and Serpelloni.

The claims stand rejected for the reasons set forth in the last Office Action (mailed 10/3/03).

3. Claims 4-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the reference as applied in paragraph 1 in view of either one of Mitchell et al or Buttermann III.

The claims stand rejected for the reasons set forth in the last Office Action (mailed 10/3/03).

4. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied in paragraph 1 further in view of Takemoto et al.

The claims stand rejected for the reasons set forth in the last Office Action (mailed 10/3/03).

5. Claims 12-21 and 23 are allowed. Reasons for allowance were set forth in the last Office Action (mailed 10/3/03).

6. Applicant's arguments filed 1/5/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants argue that it is not clear how the potatoes in the NARUSE ice cream would react with the alkali metal polyphosphate salt and human consumable calcium added by Zemel et al and that one of skill in the art would have no reasonable expectation that the combination would be successful. Zemel et al was applied as a general example of the use of soy milk as a milk substitute and furthermore as a milk substitute in ice cream. The test for obviousness is not whether the features of one reference may be bodily incorporated into the other to produce the claimed subject matter but simply what the combination of the references makes obvious to one of ordinary skill in the pertinent art. In re Bozek, 163 USPQ 545. Moreover, a reference is considered not only for what it expressly states, but for what it would reasonably have suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art. In re DeLisle, 160 USPQ 807. Clearly, Zemel et al reasonably suggests the use of soybean milk as a milk substitute and further teaches the use of same in ice cream. Nevertheless, the instant claims, as broadly recited and interpreted, do not limit the invention to an ice cream wherein any potential negative effect suggested in Applicants argument is avoided. Moreover, the instant claims do not exclude products which may have a subjectively less desirable taste to some consumers.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

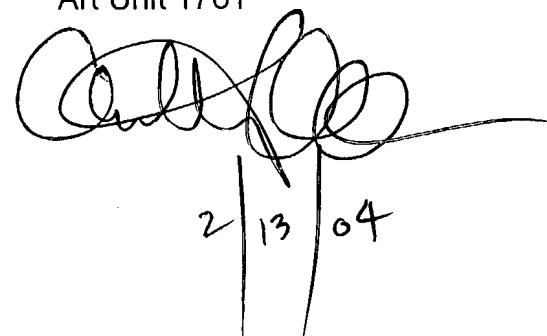
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Weier whose telephone number is 571-272-1409. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on 571-272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Anthony Weier
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1761

Anthony Weier
February 13, 2004



A handwritten signature of "Anthony Weier" is written over a date stamp. The date stamp below the signature reads "2 13 04".